Fixation of royalty on coal

†1893. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Chhattisgarh has proposed to fix the coal royalty rate on the basis of its market price instead of rupee per tonne;

(b) whether Planning Commission has also given same suggestion to his Ministry;

(c) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, by when a decision would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government has referred the issue of royalty rates on ad-valorem *vs* tonnage basis to Economic Advisory Council (EAC) to the Prime Minister for examination. The EAC would also consult the Planning Commission before giving its recommendations to the Government.

Frontier technologies for coal mining

1894. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had asked the Coal India Ltd. to adopt new frontier technologies and efficient mining practices to increase production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Coal India Ltd. is also considering to overcome constraints such as uneconomic underground mines, etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) A continuous thrust towards mechanization in the coal mines is being given by the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited (CIL) by adopting new frontier technologies and efficient mining practices to increase production.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.